

BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

2

OF THE STATE OF OREGON

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In the Matter of the

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STIPULATION OF FACTS, AND

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Teaching License of

)

FINAL ORDER OF REPRIMAND

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JAMES MARTIN HOUSTON

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On September 14, 2005, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

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(Commission) received a report from R. Michael Carter, Superintendent, Rainier Public Schools

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alleging that James Martin Houston (Houston) sent inappropriate email to school district

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administration.

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Mr. Houston fully cooperated with the Commission's investigation in this matter. After

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review of the matters alleged, Mr. Houston and the Commission agree that their respective

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interests, together with the public interest, are best served by a stipulation to certain facts and a

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reprimand.

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This document sets forth the facts upon which the parties have agreed and the

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stipulated sanction to be imposed. Mr. Houston stipulates that there is sufficient evidence in the

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Commission's files and records to support the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set

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forth below.

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By signing below, Mr. Houston acknowledges, understands, stipulates, and agrees to

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the following: (i) he has been fully advised of his rights to notice and a hearing to contest the

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findings of fact, conclusions of law, and order set forth below, and fully and finally waives all

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such rights and any rights to appeal or otherwise challenge this Stipulation of Facts and Final

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Order of Reprimand (Stipulation and Final Order); (ii) this Stipulation and Final Order is a public

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document and disclosed to the public upon request by the Commission; (iii) this Stipulation and

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Final Order is contingent upon and subject to approval and adoption by the Commission. If the

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Commission does not approve and adopt this Stipulation and Final Order, then neither Mr.

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Houston nor the Commission are bound by the terms herein; (iv) he has fully read this

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Stipulation and Final Order, and understands it completely; (v) he voluntarily, without any force

1 or duress, enters into this Stipulation and Final Order and consents to issuance and entry of the  
2 Stipulated Final Order below; (vi) he states that no promises or representation has been made  
3 to induce his to sign this Stipulation and Final Order; and (vii) he has consulted with an attorney  
4 regarding this Stipulation and Final Order and has been fully advised with regard to his rights  
5 thereto, or waives any and all rights to consult with an attorney prior to entering into this  
6 Stipulation and Final Order and issuance and entry of the Stipulated Final Order below.

7 **STIPULATION OF FACTS**

8 1. The Commission licensed James Martin Houston beginning March 25, 2005.  
9 Mr. Houston currently holds an Initial Teaching License valid through September 6, 2008, with a  
10 Special Education Endorsement.

11 2. Mr. Houston substitute taught in the Rainier school district with special education  
12 students.

13 3. Beginning May 27, 2005 Mr. Houston sent inappropriate email to Rainier School  
14 District Administration expressing his displeasure over a disagreement.

15 4. Mr. Houston later apologized for some of these communications.

16 **IT IS SO STIPULATED AND AGREED TO:**

17 *James Martin Houston*  
18 James Martin Houston

7-13-07  
Date

19 *Victoria Chamberlain*  
20 Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director  
21 Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

8-6-07  
Date

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**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

James Martin Houston's inappropriate communication with Rainier School District administration constitutes Gross Neglect of Duty as defined in OAR 584-020-0040(4)(0) as it incorporates OAR 584-020-0010(1) and (5). The Commission has the authority to impose discipline in this matter is based upon ORS 342.120 through 342.430 and OAR Chapter 584.

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**FINAL ORDER**

The Commission hereby adopts and incorporates herein the above findings of fact and conclusions of law and hereby imposes a Public Reprimand on James Martin Houston. This Order shall serve as the Public Reprimand.

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Issued and dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2007.

**TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION  
STATE OF OREGON**

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By Victoria Chamberlain  
Victoria Chamberlain, Executive Director